

279

*Sir Thomas Grosvenor's CASE, in Answer to the Petition of William Monson and William Thompson Esqs; and others, in order to avoid the said Sir Thomas his Priviledge as a Member of the Honourable Houle of Commons in Parliament.*

115

**T**H E said Sir *Thomas* doth admit, that he did Demise the Mines in the said Petition mentioned, unto *Phineas Bowles* and *John Blunt*, as in the Petition is set forth; and Sir *Thomas* did immediately deliver all the Ground mentioned therein; with which the Petitioners did rest satisfied for these Six years and upwards, without laying any further Claim.

Sir *Thomas* does not detain any of their Rights, or disturb them in their Possessions, for the Place in question was never in the possession of the Petitioners, or ever Lett by the Lease to *Bowles* and *Blunt*, but the Place was before Leased and granted to Mr. *Roger Mostyn*, and Mr. *Williams*, who have so Sworn it, in their Answers to the Petitioners Bill in *Chancery*; and the Ground was then, and has ever since continued in their possession, as Sir *Thomas's* Tenants, and Workmen.

But Sir *Thomas* doth deny, and so in his Answer in *Chancery* to the Petitioners said Bill, hath denied, that he was privy or consenting to the Assignment of that Lease to the said Petitioners; and the said Sir *Thomas*, by his said Answer, hath set forth, That the said Lessees, and the Petitioners under them, had forfeited the said Lease by Misfeazances, and not Working the said Mines as they ought to have done, and yet notwithstanding have enjoyed the benefit thereof, and that the said Sir *Thomas* offered to wave the said Forfeiture, and to allow the said Lease upon moderate Terms, in the Answer set forth, which they refused or neglected to do; And by his Answer denies expressly, as the truth is, that he, or any claiming under him, had in any sort entred upon, or disturbed the said Lessees of the benefit of the Mines so demised, to the best of his knowledge: And that the Petitioners had combined with one *Davies*, and others, to defeat his Title to the said Mines by foul and indirect Practices, which *Davies* obtained a Lease thereof behind Sir *Thomas* his back, and without notice to Sir *Thomas*, and entred thereupon by colour thereof, which Mines are Sir *Thomas* his Inheritance, the said *Davies* pretending that Sir *Thomas* held them by Usurpation, and in wrong of the Crown, whereby Sir *Thomas* was greatly vexed and disturbed, and at this day the said *Davies* pretends to find defects in Sir *Thomas* his Grant of the Mines, and thereby to let in the said Lease.

And Sir *Thomas* doth deny, that he Ordered the Petitioners Workmen to be beaten off the Work by violence, or to be threatned to be, or that he knows that one of them was buried alive in the Pit, as the Petitioners have falsely and scandalously suggested in the Case by them Printed and Published, and actually delivered to many Members of this Honourable House; Which Suggestions tend to the great Defamation and Reproach of the said Sir *Thomas*, who, as he is a Member of this Honourable House, humbly Prays, that this Honourable House will be pleased to take the same into Consideration, and do him Right therein, the rather, for that if the same Matter had been true, yet was it altogether unnecessarily inserted in the said Case as to the Matter prayed by the Petitioners said Petition, and therefore could be designed only to render the said Sir *Thomas* Obnoxious, and even Odious.

And it doth appear by the Petitioners own shewing in their said Case, That Sir *Thomas* hath done no Violence or Injury in his own Person to the Petitioners, their Workmen or Works, and that as to such other Persons as the Petitioners pretend have done them wrong, and they Indicted them, and had the Liberty of the Law against them, and the said Sir *Thomas* wholly left them to the Law.

Sir *Thomas Grosvenor* denies to have ever waved his Priviledge, or hindred the Petitioners in delivering their Petition last Sessions, but after the Prorogation, pursuant to the General Order of the House, did put in his Answer. 'Tis true he came to Dr. *Newton*, the Master in *Chancery*, November last, and told him his Solicitor was out of Town, and he had none of his Papers, and produced to him the Vote of the House, and did insist on his Priviledge during the sitting of the House, but as soon as it was up, that he would appear with his Council, and argue the Exceptions.

And as to the Exceptions put in to the said Sir *Thomas* his Answer in *Chancery*, (as in the Petition) he saith, That his said Answer is direct and full to all the necessary parts of the Petitioners Bill, as thereby may appear, and that the said Exceptions are merely frivolous and impertinent, and designed only to Trouble and Perplex him, and tend to the Discomposing and Retarding him in the Discharge of his Duty and Service of this Honourable House: And therefore humbly Prayeth, That he may have his Priviledge allowed him according to the Vote and Standing Order of this Honourable House of the 17th of April, 1699.

Sir Thomas Grosvenor's  
**C A S E,**  
In Answer to the Petition of  
*William Monson Esq; and*  
others.